

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings in paragraph 1 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's leave to amend the Figures and the specification. No new matter has been added as the optical network terminal is clearly inferrable from both the claims and the specification.

Regarding the "retrieving means" referred to in paragraph 1 of the Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that this is identified and shown in Figures 1 and 4 as either the controller 40 or the internal controller 140. Paragraphs [00026] of the specification notes that

[t]he reference data is preferably retrieved from a logically remote location by either the internal controller module 140 in the optical component or the controller 40 which controls the subsystem.

Similarly, the "comparison means" referred to in paragraph 1 of the Office Action is identified as being any one of the optical network node, the scanning module, or the internal controller. Paragraphs [00029] - [00030] note that the scanning module 110 can perform the comparison or that the optical network node 10 can perform this data processing, or that the internal controller 140 can perform the comparison. Determining which components perform these is respectfully submitted as being a design choice and well within the ambit of a person skilled in the art. As these components are clearly identified in the Figures, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's objection to the Figures with respect to the features enumerated in claims 4 and 7.

With respect to the Examiner's objection regarding claim 9 and the features recited in that claim, Applicant respectfully submits that the storage means is now illustrated in Figure 4 while the comparison means are as noted in the above paragraph. It is also respectfully submitted that there is no such thing as a "reference wavelength means" as noted in paragraph 1 of the Office Action. Claim 9 merely recites that, among other things, a specific wavelength band is centered around a predetermined reference wavelength. For a clearer explanation, please note paragraphs [00018] and [00021] of the specification which notes that the specified wavelengths $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_4$ are

predetermined, known, and fixed by international standards and regulatory bodies. Each of these specified wavelengths is a predetermined reference wavelength. As such, there is no "reference wavelength means" as alleged in paragraph 1 of the Office Action.

Regarding the Examiner's objection to claim 12 and the Figures, Applicant respectfully submits that the components to perform the various functions in claim 12 are shown in the Figures. The step of receiving the optical carrier and the multiple optical signals is performed by either the node 10 or the scanning module 110. The scanning step is therefore respectfully requested that the objections to the Figures be withdrawn in light of the above submissions and the above amendments to the Figures.

Regarding paragraph 2 of the Office Action, Applicant elects Species III of the Examiner identified alleged species. Applicant respectfully submits that Species III is shown in Figures based on the above submissions and amendments. Applicant submits that Species III includes claims 9-11.

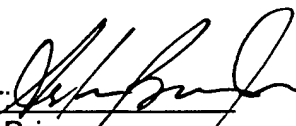
Applicant also respectfully notes that previous Office Actions on this same case had found claims 9-11 and 16 allowable while claims 13 and 19 were merely objected to. In response to these previous Office Actions, Applicant had amended claims 1, 12, 14 and 18

In view of the foregoing submissions and amendments, early favourable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In order to confirm receipt, kindly date stamp and mail to us the enclosed return postcard addressed to this firm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Dan Yang

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